

SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
JUNE 18, 2013 @ 7:00 P.M.
FORT SMITH COURTHOUSE, ROOM 204
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

Judge David Hudson called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bob Schwartz led the invocation.

Sharon Brooks, County Clerk called the roll with all members present.

Johnny Hobbs	Linda Murry	Danny Aldridge	Phil Hicks
Donald Carter	Bob Schwartz	John Spradlin	
Rhonda Royal	Ray Stewart	Tony Crockett	
Dickie Robertson	Jim Medley	Shawn Looper	

Legal counsel was represented by Daniel Shue, Prosecuting Attorney

Approval of the Minutes:

May 14, 2013 Sebastian County Quorum Court Special Meeting

May 21, 2013 Sebastian County Quorum Court Meeting

Ray Stewart made a motion to approve the minutes as shown in the Quorum Court packet.

Dickie Robertson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

The Executive Report was presented by the County Judge:

I. Enterprise Application Software Update

HR training is being conducted this week, and we are completing our second payroll parallel process. Implementing of the Financial System is pending the development of a plan for the Treasurer's office.

Court system configuration has been completed for the Public Defender and Juvenile Services area and work has begun with the Circuit Clerk, Court Administrator and Fort Smith and Greenwood District Courts. This phase will continue for the next five months.

Law Enforcement continues to expand their database system and add functionality as they learn new options available within the software. The Detention Center continues training and parallel processing as they wait to coordinate go-live with the Judicial System.

II. Proposed Development of Pay Plan for the 2014 Budget

Step 1. County Judge's office will develop a proposed salary structure plan to replace County Ordinance 2005-15 and the current point factor position classification system. The proposed plan will be based upon the

SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
JUNE 18, 2013 @ 7:00 P.M.
FORT SMITH COURTHOUSE, ROOM 204
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

Decision Band Method, and will refer to the Fox Lawson Compensation Plan. The County plan will be put together over the months of June and July.

- Step 2. County Judge's office will coordinate the proposed pay plan with County Elected Officials during the month of August.
- Step 3. In September, the proposed compensation plan will be presented to the Quorum Court for consideration of adoption for the 2014 Budget.

Judge Hudson said as we work through the process; we will brief the Quorum Court to make sure we get some feedback so that we are headed in the direction that everyone is supporting. This will give you a process to work through for the next three months working with the elected officials before a plan is presented in September. It's important that we continue to move forward with a system we can administer fairly on behalf of all the county offices employees.

Judge Hudson asked for questions or comments.

Danny Aldridge commented: "When you and I spoke this afternoon we talked about the July discussion meeting, we discussed putting together a preliminary plan and working out the details before the budget cycle. Was there a timeline that wouldn't allow this to happen?"

Judge Hudson answered: "Why don't we see, where we can get? It's all a matter of time and attention. I would like to work with the elected officials before presenting a plan to the Quorum Court. Anything is possible. It is a priority to get something to look at before the 2014 Budget. As you and I spoke this afternoon, if the county officials don't support and embrace the pay system and the guidelines of how we maintain this system, it will make it more difficult to take care of. If the Quorum Court doesn't embrace the direction of the plan or support or honor the program it's not going to work. It's got to be a partnership." The pay system has been difficult to administer the last 5 -6 years. Work was completed for a 25 grade system which was rejected by the Quorum Court. We have to communicate and coordinate better so we don't expend a lot of work with no results.

Danny Aldridge commented: "We all recognize that the current Pay Plan is not working properly. It started to fall apart the last few years. All the pressure should be on us to act responsibly and quickly as possible."

Judge Hudson responded: "We can have a report that has the current policy and the background for the development policy in your hands. There are four new Quorum Court members that have not seen the Fox Lawson Study. County Ordinance 2005-15 sets out our policy and procedures for how to take care of our system. We do have a history of all the reclassifications that have occurred in the current Pay System since 1999, hundreds of Changes. One of the challenges is to come up with a program that we can properly administer. We can commit to a plan showing our

SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
JUNE 18, 2013 @ 7:00 P.M.
FORT SMITH COURTHOUSE, ROOM 204
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

current policies, which will be a good starting point. The challenge will be to rewrite policies to start and administer a new plan. If that is acceptable we can certainly do that in July.”

Danny Aldridge commented further: “It will certainly be a benefit. I will also suggest that although the Fox Lawson Study is very complete it’s heavily weighted toward private industry

rather than the government. Please consider the Association of the Arkansas Counties 2013 Salary Survey so we can compare apples to apples.”

Judge Hudson responded: “Let me note on that. We will make a point clear on how many Class Six counties actually have a Compensation Pay Plan. There is a gap when trying to compare our County to Class Six counties and that will be a big issue when we report on our county’s pay ranges.” There are no Class 6 Counties with our structure of Administrative Departments including a Comptroller. To compare Sebastian County to other Class 6 Counties, we are probably on the top. The pay system should also take into account the local labor market. This is a pay issue that we need to agree on as we structure County Salary Ranges.

Linda Murry commented: “If I remember correctly the basis for their salary range was some cities. We compared our salaries with Washington County we pay more and Washington County is a class up.”

Judge Hudson commented: The pay system is a very divisive issue. It is important that elected officials and the Quorum Court establish a consensus in addressing a new or revised pay system.

The next orders of business are the Monthly Financial Reports:

Kathy Lawrence, Comptroller, presented a Summary of Transactions of the Financial Report. She asked for questions and comments and there were none.

Judith Miller, County Treasurer, presented an overview of the Treasurer Report. She asked for questions and comments. Bob Schwartz’s question was regarding sales tax. Miller advised how to locate it in the packet from the Treasurer’s office.

Next order of business is the review of appointment to the County Equalization Board.

Judge Hudson reported that there are three County Equalization Board positions that need to be addressed:

1. Lisa Fletcher’s term has expired and she will consider another term. There will be additional follow up on this matter.
2. Jimmie Taylor’s term has expired.
3. Doug Melton has resigned.

SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
JUNE 18, 2013 @ 7:00 P.M.
FORT SMITH COURTHOUSE, ROOM 204
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

Judge Hudson recommended that Jimmie Taylor be re-appointed and Leo Faulkner be appointed to replace Mr. Melton.

Bob Schwartz made the motion to re-appoint Jimmy Taylor and appoint Leo Faulkner to the Sebastian County Equalization Board, replacing Doug Melton. Danny Aldridge seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

The next item of business was An Ordinance Regulating Citizen Owned Animals Within the boundaries of County Parks; Establishing Exemptions from such; Providing for the Penalties for Violation thereof; and for other purposes. (2nd reading)

Mr. Michael Phillips, private citizen, of 1111 Murta St. Fort Smith, Arkansas addressed the court regarding a dog attack and the death of a pet ("Zoey"-Yorkshire Terrier) while walking her at the public park, Ben Geren Park. He is asking for remediation from the dog owners whose dog killed Zoey under Arkansas Law Domesticated animal injuries by dogs 20-19-102. Mr. Phillips begged that the Quorum Court consider passing a Leash Law Ordinance.

The ordinance was read by Sharon Brooks, County Clerk:

A motion was made by Dickie Robertson to suspend the rules and put the Ordinance on 3rd reading, by title only. Shawn Looper seconded the motion.

Sharon Brooks called the roll, the motion passed with 9 Yes votes, 2 No votes, Shawn Looper and Danny Aldridge and 1 Abstain John Spradlin.

A motion was made by Johnny Hobbs to adopt the 3rd reading of Ordinance. A second motion was made by Bob Schwartz.

Sharon Brooks, called the roll, Ordinance 2013-12 passed with 10 Yes votes, and 3 No votes, Shawn Looper, John Spradlin and Danny Aldridge.

Next order of business: Review 911 Mapper/Researcher position.

Judge Hudson gave the background of this position and stated that this is a county activity not a contractor's position.

Shawn Looper made a motion to defer the 911/Mapper/Researcher position discussion to the 2014 Budget meeting. Tony Crockett seconded the motion.

The motion passed with 7 Yes votes and 6 No votes, Jim Medley, Ray Stewart, Bob Schwartz, Dickie Robertson, Rhonda Royal and Donald Carter.

SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
JUNE 18, 2013 @ 7:00 P.M.
FORT SMITH COURTHOUSE, ROOM 204
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

Next order of business was An Ordinance Relating to Personnel, Policies, Salaries, Benefits and Conditions of Employment for Sebastian County Employees; and Other Purposes, Namely the 2013 Sebastian County Personnel Manual.

The Ordinance was read by Sharon Brooks, County Clerk:

A motion was made by Johnny Hobbs to suspend the rules and put Ordinance by 3rd reading on the agenda by title only. Tony Crockett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Ordinance was read by the County Clerk.

A motion was made by Shawn Looper to approve the Ordinance. Bob Schwartz seconded the motion. Ordinance 2013-13 passed unanimously.

The next order of business: An Appropriation Ordinance Amending Budget Ordinance No. 2012-22 in order to Appropriate Additional Funds and Approve Addition Expenditures for County Offices and Departments in the 2013 Budget; and for Other Purposes

The Ordinance was read by the County Clerk.

Danny Aldridge made a motion to consider Exhibit "A" before the Appropriation Ordinance, and vote on items 1 through 30 as a single body and vote separately on items 31 through 37. Shawn Looper seconded the motion.

Judge Hudson asked for a roll call vote on items 1 through 30 on Exhibit A.

The motion passed unanimously.

Johnny Hobbs made motion to withdraw Item 31 from Exhibit "A", shown as increase to line items in Appropriation No. 440, County Road, from County Road Fund 202. Bob Schwartz seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Shawn Looper made a motion to approve Item 32 of Exhibit "A" shown as an increase in line item in Appropriation No. 60, Collection, from Collection Fund 102. Dickie Robertson seconded the motion.

Sharon Brooks called the roll, the motion failed with 8 No votes and 5 Yes votes, Ray Stewart, Bob Schwartz, Dickie Robertson, Jim Medley and Johnny Hobbs.

Shawn Looper made a motion to approve Item 33 of Exhibit "A" shown as an increase in line item in Appropriation No. 60, Collector, from Collection Fund 102. Dickie Robertson seconded the motion.

SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
JUNE 18, 2013 @ 7:00 P.M.
FORT SMITH COURTHOUSE, ROOM 204
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

Sharon Brooks called the roll, the motion failed with 9 No votes and 4 Yes votes, Bob Schwartz, Dickie Robertson, Jim Medley and Ray Stewart.

Shawn Looper made a motion to approve Item 34 of Exhibit "A" shown as an increase in line item in Appropriation No. 66, Collector's Automation, from Collection's Automation Fund 120. Dickie Robertson seconded the motion.

Sharon Brooks called the roll, the motion failed with 8 No votes and 5 Yes votes, Dickie Robertson, Jim Medley, Johnny Hobbs, Ray Stewart and Bob Schwartz.

Shawn Looper made a motion to approve Item 35 of Exhibit "A" shown as an increase in line item in Appropriation No. 32, County Recorder, from County Recorder Fund 119. Dickie Robertson seconded the motion.

Sharon Brooks called the roll, the motion was defeated with 8 No votes and 5 Yes votes, Dickie Robertson, Johnny Hobbs, Jim Medley, Ray Stewart and Bob Schwartz.

Shawn Looper made a motion to approve Item 36 of Exhibit "A" shown as an increase in line items in Appropriation No. 200, Juvenile Detention Center, from General Fund 101. Dickie Robertson seconded the motion.

Sharon Brooks called the roll, the motion passed with 11 Yes votes and 2 No votes, Donald Carter and Danny Aldridge.

Shawn Looper made a motion to approve Item 37 of Exhibit "A" shown as a salary exception approved in June 4, 2013 Mid-Year Budget Meeting. Pay increase for Position No. 9025, Court Administrator, Grade 12. Dickie Robertson seconded the motion.

Sharon Brooks called the roll, the motion passed with 10 Yes votes and 3 No votes, Donald Carter, Danny Aldridge and Linda Murry.

Shawn Looper made a motion to approve the Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Bob Schwartz.

Sharon Brooks called the roll. Ordinance 2013-14 passed with 11 Yes votes and 2 No votes, Danny Aldridge and Don Carter.

The next item was a Resolution Authorizing the Sebastian County Judge to Apply for a Grant on Behalf of the Milltown/Washburn Rural Volunteer Fire Department for Replacement of an Aging Brush Truck.

Shawn Looper made a motion to pass the Resolution. Phil Hicks seconded the motion.

Resolution 2013-5 passed by voice vote.

SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
JUNE 18, 2013 @ 7:00 P.M.
FORT SMITH COURTHOUSE, ROOM 204
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS

Joey McCutchen, private citizen, asked to address the Quorum Court on a property issue. In May 2012 the US Secretary to the Interior established Blueway System as President Obama's America's Great Outdoor Entrance. That Blueway System involved the White River. It covered 27,900 square miles, close to 18 million acres across 60 counties in Arkansas and Missouri. The Blueway System is a conservation effort and a management system. In January 2013 the US Department of the Interior hosted a ceremony and announced that the White River and the Watershed had been named the nation's second Blueway System. Tonight I'm asking you to consider a proposed resolution entitled:

"A Resolution of Opposition to the January 2013 "designation" and "recognition" of the White River and its Watershed as the "Second National Blueway"; and Especially Opposition to a "Blueway" Memorandum of Understanding being entered into by Federal and State bureaucrats pertaining to our lands and waters-due to lack of proper notifications or invitation, and due to failure to seek approval, involvement or input of any kind from Sebastian County, Arkansas."

Shawn Looper made a motion to put the Resolution of Opposition on the agenda. John Spradlin seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Public comments:

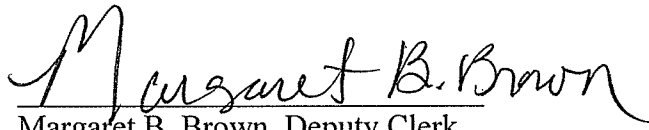
Mr. Bob Goodwin came forward to address the court and show pictures of his property with erosion from his neighbor's adjoining property. He is asking for help from the Quorum Court to solve the erosion problem.

Shawn Looper made the motion to adjourn and Tony Crockett duly seconded.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Sharon Brooks, County Clerk


Margaret B. Brown, Deputy Clerk